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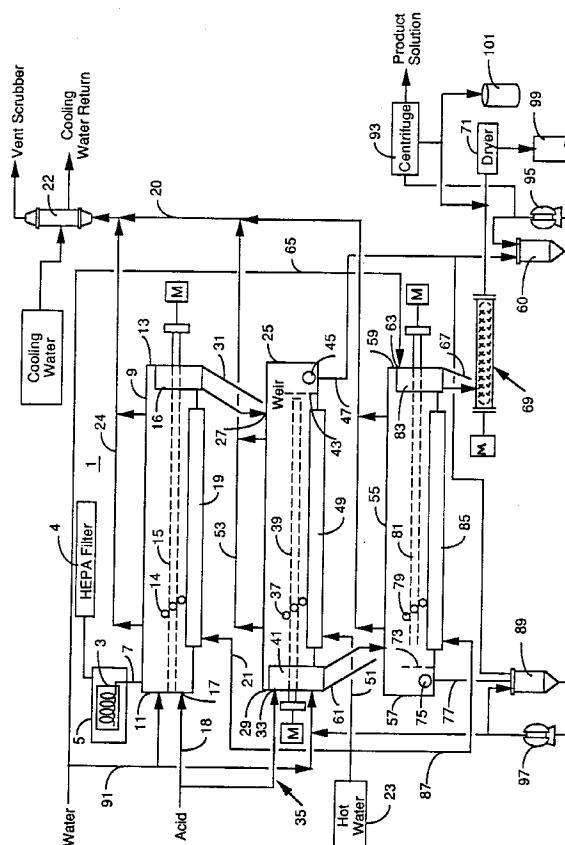
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Continuous ash extraction process.

Radioactive metal is recovered from solid oxides of the metal by exposing the oxide to a cocurrent flow of a first acid solution in a first contactor (9) to form partially reacted oxides and a solution containing the metal. The first solution containing the metal is drawn off and the partially reacted oxides are passed through a countercurrent flow of a second acid solution in a second contactor (25) to form reaction residues and a second solution containing the metal. The second solution containing the metal is drawn off and the reaction residues are passed through a countercurrent flow of wash water in a third contactor (55). The reaction residues are then separated from the wash water and dried.





European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 94 65 0021

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
A,D	US-A-4 177 241 (L. A. DIVINS ET AL.) * column 4, line 23 - line 40; figure 1 B *	1,7	C22B60/00 C22B3/02
A,D	US-A-4 509 978 (W. O. GREENHALGH) * claim 1 *	1	
A,D	US-A-4 814 046 (T. R. JOHNSON ET AL.) * claim 1 *	1	
A,D	US-A-4 749 519 (G. KOEHLI ET AL.) * claim 1 *	1	
A,D	US-A-3 882 040 (R. G. AUGÉ ET AL.) * claim 1 *	1	
A,D	US-A-4 787 979 (Z. KOLARIK ET AL.) * claim 1 *	1	
A	FR-A-541 618 (SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE D'ÉVAPORATION) * claim; figure 1 *	1,7	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
A	FR-A-2 087 585 (COMMISSARIAT A L'ÉNERGIE ATOMIQUE) * claims 1,7; figures 1,2 *	1,7	C22B G21C
A	US-A-2 885 270 (J. C. KARCHER ET AL.) * claim 1; figure 1 *	1,7	
A	'Ullmanns Encyclopädie der technischen Chemie' 1951, URBAN & SCHWARZENBERG, MÜNCHEN-BERLIN, 3RD EDITION, VOL. 1 * page 704 - page 705; figure 1046 *	1,7	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
BERLIN		29 May 1995	Sutor, W
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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